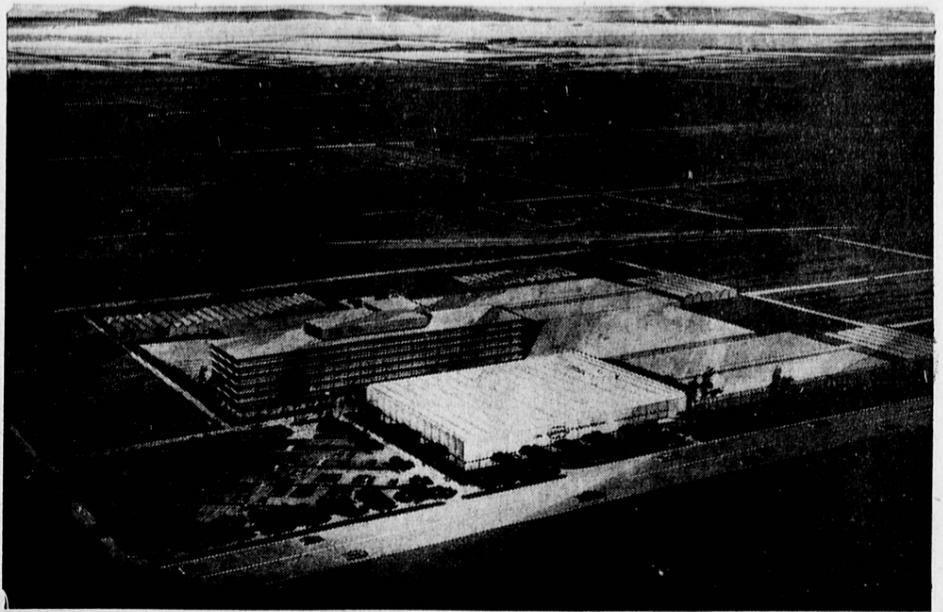


NEW LANDMARK . . . Construction started yesterday on the new "MRL" building at Maricopa St. and Hawaii Ave., west of Crenshaw Blvd. When completed next spring, it

will house the Magnavox Research Laboratories. The center has been master planned for future expansion in two directions — east and north. It sits on a 10-acre site.



FUTURE PLANT . . . Perspective view of the new AiResearch plant to be constructed here rendered by architects Allison and Ribbe, shows the master plan of

development, and includes several structures making up the total complex. First phase of the project will be the huge building in center foreground.

EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

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77th Year—No. 71 ★

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1959

52 PAGES

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A Penny for your Thoughts

What are you looking forward to most when school opens next Thursday? queried the Pennies photog this week several students who were registered at the city's high schools.

They all agreed—5 to 0—extra activities were number one on the list. For the record, their answers and pictures appear below.

Maurence Mallander, 508 Zakon Road:

"Playing football and meeting new friends are first on my list. The other activities, such as dances and athletic games will be a lot of fun during the year."

Inda Seymour, 20502 Madison St.:

"Meeting new people is my answer. It is always fun to meet and make new friends, especially at school. I am also looking forward to the dances and games during the year."

File Mazula, 1702 W. 236th St.:

"I'd have to say that football was number one with me. I want to play football and maybe some other sport. I am also looking forward to meeting some new friends."

Jan O'Neill, 1808 Marinette St.:

"The extra activities, especially sports—basketball and football—are high on my list. I also want to meet some new friends and learn how to do a new thing or two."

Jan O'Neill, 1808 Marinette St.:

"Football, baseball and other sports are along with meeting new friends and the week-ends for me." (Said dad about this time—both are probably looking forward to summer vacation most.)

TOTAL TAX RATE PASSES \$8 FOR CITY PROPERTY OWNERS

Major Firms Start Plants

Groundbreaking ceremonies here this week for two major industrial developments have Torrance officials saying that 1959 will be a banner year in the city's history.

Ceremonies Monday near 190th St. and Crenshaw marked the start of construction for the new multi-million dollar building, first increment of a new one million square foot facility being constructed by The Garrett Corp.

The first unit, a 235,000 square-foot, two-story, steel frame structure will be the largest single department in the firm's expansion program. It will be used for the development and manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment which the firm's AiResearch Manufacturing Division is developing for the aircraft and missile industries.

FOLLOWING closely on the heels of the Monday ceremonies were traditional earth-turning rites yesterday on Maricopa near Teri Ave. where a multi-million dollar research center was launched by Magnavox, internationally known engineering and manufacturing firm.

On both occasions, a delegation of city officials headed by Mayor Albert Isen was on hand to welcome the companies on behalf of the city.

At the AiResearch ceremony Monday, Harry H. Wetzel, vice president and AiResearch manager, said 600 to 800 persons will be transferred to the new Torrance location in about six months. The completed project will include a multi-story office building, laboratories for research and development, manufacturing facilities, machine shops, foundry, and warehousing. Wetzel said, parking for 5000 cars is being planned.

SPEAKING FOR the Magnavox firm yesterday, Richard O'Connor, son of the founder and chairman of the board of directors of Magnavox said development would represent an investment of approximately \$2 million and that additional facilities would be added in the future.

"The important research and development responsibilities of this laboratory are in the communication, data processing, missile, and other highly classified electronic areas," he



CYCLIST HURT . . . Police Officer Richard Thompson checks Motocyclist Kenneth Allan Fiske while awaiting an ambulance at Gramercy Ave. and Sepulveda Monday afternoon. Fiske, who lives at 5325 Wilma, was thrown from his cycle when it was struck by a car driven by Virginia Lee Grimm, 35, of 446 E. 229th Place. He was treated at Harbor General Hospital and later released. (Herald Photo)

Survey Shows 7% Increase

Torrance taxpayers will be paying a combined city-county tax rate of \$8.17 next year, a survey by the HERALD showed yesterday. This will mark the first time the combined rate has exceeded \$8.

The combined rate jumped to the new high Tuesday when the Board of Supervisors fixed county levies for the year.

The new rate for Torrance represents an increase of more than 7 per cent over last year's rate of \$7.61.

Highest raise is in the Torrance Unified School rate — a hike of 29 cents for each \$100 in assessed valuation. This includes a 17-cent in-

and increased enrollments, school officials said. El Camino college tax rate of \$0.5713 added to the local school district's \$3.4907 bring the total school tax rate to \$4.0620.

The city's tax rate jumped about seven cents, and includes increased retirement costs, an added park and rec-

Where Your Tax \$ Goes

	1958-59	1959-60
Torrance City	\$1.2140	\$1.2880
Torrance Unified Schools	3.7700	4.0620*
L. A. County—General	1.9728	2.0859
County Flood Control	0.2772	0.3672
Metropolitan Water District	0.1800	0.1700
County Sanitation District	0.1977	0.2000**
	\$7.6117	\$8.1731

*Includes El Camino College rate of \$0.5713.

**Estimated by District.

crease in the general operating budget, 9 cents for higher interest rates, and 3 cents for additional costs of the district contribution to employe retirement funds.

THE RISE in the general operating budget is due principally to rising costs, inflation,

tion levy, and a general fund increase from \$0.991 to the legal maximum of \$1. An 11-cent hike in the county general taxes, plus another dime for the County Flood Control District, more than offsets the announced 1-cent reduction in the Metropolitan Water District tax.

UNDER THE newly established tax rate, a Torrance homeowner whose property is assessed at \$3000 can expect to pay about \$245. Tax at this year's rate would be about \$17 less.

School District To Sell New Bonds

Sale of \$2 million in bonds authorized in 1958 by Torrance voters to finance construction of high school facilities in Torrance was approved by the Board of Education here Tuesday night.

Sale of the bonds will bring Torrance close to its allowable maximum of \$19,437,632, and will continue its eligibility for aid under the state loan program.

Lowe Named Manager For New Torrance Sears

Announcement was made here today by K. R. Barton, Los Angeles Retail District Manager for Sears, Roebuck and Co., of the appointment of John G. Lowe to the managership of Torrance's new Sears store in the Del Amo Center.

Lowe joined the Sears organization at the Long Beach store in 1946 as a management trainee, following his graduation from S.C. and completion of his military service. After serving in a variety of merchandising assignments at Long Beach, he was promoted to merchandise manager of the store in 1949. He joined the Los Angeles District merchandise staff three years later, and became manager of the Vermont and Slauson Sears store in 1956.

Lowe took over the management reins at the Inglewood store early in 1958, and held that position until receiving

As Sears store manager in Inglewood he was an active member of that city's Rotary Club and Retail Merchants Association, as well as being closely associated with Inglewood's Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. Lowe reside in Downey with their three daughters, Gayle Ann, age 11; Janet Elaine, 9; and Diana Carol, 5.



JOHN G. LOWE
Sears Torrance Manager

(Continued on Page 22)

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